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C O N F I D E N T I A L 271759Z JUL 88 STAFF

CITE FBIS/TEL AVIV 10724

TO: FBIS INFO FBIS/NICOSIA.

SUBJECT: TA TVRO UPDATE

REF: FBIS 27843

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1. PRIMARY REASON FOR THE DELAY IN THE TVRO PROJECT WAS CAUSED BY DIFFICULTY BUREAU HAD IN CONTACTING THE PARTY (AL-BEN LTD.) WHO CONTROLS THAT PART OF THE ROOF TO WHICH THE BUREAU CURRENTLY DOES NOT HAVE ACCESS. THERE ARE THREE POSSIBLE LOCATIONS ON THE ROOF FOR THE TVRO, TWO OF WHICH DO NOT FALL WITHIN THE AREA FOR WHICH TA NOW PAYS 11K/YEAR RENTAL FEES (TO AZORIM). AL-BEN FINALLY RESPONDED TO OUR INQUIRIES, PROPOSING AN ANNUAL RENTAL FEE OF 1.5K PER YEAR, PLUS 15PERCENT VAT, AND LINKED TO ANNUAL U.S. CONSUMER PRICE INDEX. AZORIM AT THIS WRITING HAS AGREED TO OUR INSTALLING THE TVRO AT NO ADDITIONAL INCREASE IN THE RENTAL FEE. BUREAU HAS OPTED FOR THE AZORIM LOCATION; I.E., NEAR THE DI-POLE ANTENNA ON THE LOWER SECTION OF THE ROOF TOWARD THE SOUTHERN END OF THE BUILDING.

2. THE VENDOR PROVIDING THE TVRO HAS RETURNED FROM AN EXTENDED OVERSEAS TRIP AND NOW HAS ADVISED THAT THE ANTENNA IS IN COUNTRY. BUREAU SHOULD HAVE THE FULL SPECIFICATIONS IN HAND BY THE END OF THIS WEEK, OR EARLY NEXT WEEK. BUREAU WILL FORWARD TO HDQTS VIA CABLE OR SERVICE MSG, AS REQUESTED BY C/FED. AZORIM'S ENGINEERS WILL BE IN CONTACT WITH THE TVRO VENDOR BEFORE ACTUALLY INSTALLING/MOUNTING ANTENNA ON ROOF.

3. COVERAGE IMPLICATIONS--TEHERAN TV: FROM THE OUTSET, TA HAS ASSUMED THAT [REDACTED] WOULD ASSIST IN PROCESSING FROM IRANIAN TV IN "CRISIS SITUATIONS," LEAVING THE DEFINITION OF SUCH A SITUATION TO HDQTS [REDACTED] WITH HIS PRESENT COVERAGE, [REDACTED] WOULD HAVE A FEW HOURS EACH WEEK TO ASSIST, BUT WE CANNOT NOW PREDICT WHEN THESE HOURS WOULD BE BECAUSE OF THE IRREGULARITY

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IN RECEIVING THE WEST BANK ARABIC PAPERS. A DECISION WOULD HAVE
TO BE MADE ON WHAT COVERAGE TO DROP IF TA WERE ASKED TO ASSIST
IN COVERING PERSIAN SOURCES. AT THE PRESENT TIME, WITH THE ON-GOING
"INTIFADA" IN THE WEST BANK AND GAZA STRIP, THE WEST BANK ARABIC
PRESS MATERIALS HAVE BECOME A BEST SELLER. ONCE THE TVRO IS OPERA-
TIONAL AND WE CAN SEE CLEARLY WHAT NC IS UP AGAINST, TA WILL BE
ABLE TO MAKE A MORE DETAILED RESPONSE ON JUST HOW TO EASE THE
PRESSURE ON NC, CRISIS OR NOT.

4. FOR THE RECORD, THE CROSS-REFERENCED ITEM IN THE ABOVE-REF-
ERENCED MSG, I.E., FBIS 27209 (4 MAY 88) IS NOT AVAILABLE AT TA.
DECL OADR DRV COL 14-82.

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